AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

 (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> software tool for use in configuring firewalls, comprising:

an interface executing on a computer which communicates with a database to obtain the identification of firewall devices associated with a network and generate a first image on a display of the computer which lists said devices; and

means responsive to the selection of one of the devices in said list to generate a second <u>image on said</u> display which lists conduits within said device, wherein each conduit is identified by descriptive names stored in said database for local and external devices and/or networks that are logically connected by the conduit.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The tool of claim 1, further including means responsive to the selection of one of the devices listed in said first display to generate a third <u>image on said</u> display which lists internal networks owned by an entity associated with the selected device, and means to selectively open and close conduits respectively corresponding to said internal networks.
- 3. (Original) The tool of claim 2 wherein said means to selectively open and close conduits comprises a graphical object adjacent each listing of an internal

network that can be selected by a user to toggle between open and closed states for the listed network.

- 4. (Currently Amended) The tool of claim 2 wherein said third display image further includes means for adding a new conduit to one of the internal networks.
- 5. (Original) The tool of claim 4 wherein said means for adding a new conduit to one of the internal networks includes an identification of each protocol that can be associated with the new conduit, and graphical objects via which a user can select each of said protocols.
- 6. (Original) A method for configuring firewalls, comprising the following steps:

communicating with a database to obtain the identification of firewall devices associated with a network;

generating a first display which lists said devices; and

detecting the selection of one of the devices in said list; and

generating a second display which lists conduits within said device, wherein
each conduit is identified by descriptive names stored in said database for local and
external devices and/or networks that are logically connected by the conduit.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, further including the steps of generating a third display which lists internal networks owned by an entity associated

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with the selected device, in response to the selection of one of the devices listed in said first display, and which enables a user to selectively open and close conduits respectively corresponding to said internal networks.

- 8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said third display includes a graphical object adjacent each listing of an internal network that can be selected by a user to toggle between open and closed states for the listed network.
- 9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said third display further enables a user to add a new conduit to one of the internal networks.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said third display includes an identification of each protocol that can be associated with the new conduit, and graphical objects via which a user can select each of said protocols.
- 11. (New) The method of claim 6 wherein said descriptive names comprise textual identification of said devices.
- 12. (New) The tool of claim 1 wherein said descriptive names comprise textual identification of said devices.